445-272P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Koji HANAOKA et al.

INT'L. APPLN. NO.: PCT/JP97/04448

SERIAL NO.: New

GROUP:

FILED: April 19, 1999

EXAMINER:

FOR: DETERGENT-IMPREGNATED ARTICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks BOX PATENT APPLICATION Washington, D.C. 20231

April 19, 1999

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Before line 1, insert -- This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP97/04448 which has an International filing date of December 4, 1997 which designated the United States of America. --

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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